



Emergency Medical Services

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Successfully enacted the functional consolidation of Leon County's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division and the Tallahassee Fire Department. This is expected to improve resource utilization and availability, resulting in improved services delivered to the Leon County community.
- Implemented an electronic patient care reporting system that has improved information provided to healthcare providers in the continuum of care. Further, this system is compliant with the Florida Department of Health's Emergency Medical Services Tracking and Reporting System data collection program. This allows the EMS Division to provide vital data to the Department of Health and local decision makers regarding system performance.
- Through the Public Safety Communications Board, the Division has supported the implementation of the new 800 MHz digital radio system. This system will improve communications capabilities and interoperability between first responders resulting in improved service delivery.
- Continued to improve the chances of survival for cardiac arrest patients by advocating for the placement and use of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) through education and outreach. During FY 08/09, the EMS Division completed the project of placing an AED in every County facility. There are currently 417 AEDs in the community registered with the EMS Division.
- The County continues to be recognized by the American Heart Association as a Heart Ready Community. The Division has maintained a cardiac arrest resuscitation rate four to five times better than the national average.
- Received the "Bike Saint Award" for advocating bicycle safety in the community from the Rough Boys Garden Club.
- Responded to 30,719 requests for service; including 5,447 traumas; 2,899 difficulty breathings; 3,347 motor-vehicle crashes; 3,169 cardiac problems; and 654 strokes. Of these requests, the division transported 21,780 patients.
- Developed a critical care transport team of highly trained paramedics who can care for critically ill and injured patients who require transport to tertiary care facilities for enhanced patient care. These services were previously unavailable in the community and assure the best possible patient outcomes.
- Presented 92 public-education and injury-prevention programs.
- Trained 300 Leon County citizens in CPR and the use of AEDs and presented three "Power to End Stroke" seminars, a community stroke prevention and awareness program which targets the African-American community, a population at high risk for strokes.



Did You Know

EMS provides several public-education and injury-prevention programs with topics including CPR and AED training, Healthy Heart Living, Child Passenger Safety Seats, Children and Senior Adult Health and Wellness, Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety, and Power to End Stroke seminars. These programs are designed to preserve life, improve health and promote safety in our community.

Tom Quillin
EMS Chief
606-2100
QuillinT@leoncountyfl.gov

The EMS division provides clinically superior, cost-effective emergency medical services and transport to the citizens and visitors of Leon County. Launched in December 2003, the EMS system and team have provided the highest quality emergency care available and continue to enhance this vital service.

